

2009 Annual Operating Instructions
Brown Creek C&H Allotment
New Meadows Ranger District
Payette National Forest

The Annual Operating Instructions are for implementing grazing management activities on the Brown Creek C&H Allotment for the 2009 grazing season. These instructions were developed with the participation of the preferred applicant on May 8, 2009. Those in attendance at the meeting were as follows:

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Tim Hansen | Preferred Applicant |
| 2. Brian McMorris | Range Specialist |
| 3. Rick Belnap | Idaho Dept. of Lands |
| 4. Joe Koontz | Potlatch Corporation |
| 5. Pete Grinde | Range Specialist |

These instructions are a guideline for grazing management. Any changes in management from these instructions require approval by the Forest Service prior to implementation. Refer to Part 2 of your term grazing permit for general terms and conditions that apply to these instructions.

Grazing fees of \$1.35/head month must be paid prior to livestock entering the National Forest. The New Meadows District Office must receive confirmation from Lockbox that payment has been made prior to cattle entering the Forest.

2009 AUTHORIZED USE

<u>PERMITTEE</u>	<u>LIVESTOCK NUMBERS</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>ANIMAL MONTHS</u>
Tim and Kelly Hansen (preferred applicant)	210 cow/calf pairs	between 8/8-9/30	not to exceed 419 AUMs on NFS land

TERMS AND CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO SEASON OF USE AND LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

The District Ranger may modify the season of use and livestock numbers permitted on any given year. The season of use is dependent upon weather conditions (annual precipitation and temperature) which influence annual forage production and range readiness. The District Ranger's authority to modify term grazing permitted use is further described in Part 2, Section 8 (c) of your permit.

GRAZING PRESCRIPTION AND LIVESTOCK ROTATIONS

Fisheries Biologists have completed a biological assessment with respect to grazing in this allotment. The known or potential problem areas have been identified along with the respective mitigation measures designed to eliminate each potentially detrimental effect. The mitigation measure for the resource concern area is listed below.

Resource Concern
Hard Creek riparian area

Mitigation Measure
No grazing by livestock.
Livestock will be removed when
found in the area.

Livestock Rotations and Allowable Use

The Brown Creek allotment prescription is a three pasture deferred system. This system is designed to allow for seed ripe on the desirable grasses in each Unit over a three year cycle. The Bally and Six Mile Units are used as early pasture, with grazing use alternated each year. The Granite Unit is used last each season due to its higher elevation. The private land is used for a gathering pasture at the end of the season. The Granite Unit is entirely National Forest System land. The Bally Mountain Unit and Six Mile Unit are primarily private land with some National Forest System land included in the uplands. You are responsible to ensure your livestock don't drift into adjacent allotments.

The uplands have a 40% allowable use limit, and riparian areas are limited to 30%, or 4 inch stubble height of hydric greenline species. When the permittee observes proper use standards being reached, they will move the livestock to the next unit or off the Forest and notify the Forest Service.

2009 Grazing Rotation (Based on 235 cow/calf pairs)

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Use Period</u>
Six Mile	From 6/15 to 7/20
	From 9/26 to 10/7
Bally Mountain	From 7/21 to 8/25
Granite	From 8/8 to 9/30

Once any of the allowable use criteria are met on National Forest System lands in any of the units cattle are to be moved to the next unit in the rotation or off NFS lands. The second use unit and Granite Unit overlap permitted days. Cattle are allowed to begin to enter the Granite Unit on 8/8 and all cattle are to be off Forest by 9/30.

Salt placement is required to be at least 1/4 mile from water. Additionally, salt should be located 1/4 mile from timber plantations. If this can't be accomplished, the New Meadows District range personnel will work with you to find acceptable locations. All salt blocks shall be removed when livestock have been moved out of a unit or off National Forest.

Livestock Trailing Instructions/Livestock Shipping Instructions

Livestock will be trucked to private land. Livestock will be removed at the end of the grazing season onto private land.

MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

All range improvements must be maintained prior to turning livestock into the Unit scheduled for use. If an existing range improvement has been properly maintained but requires reconstruction, a cooperative effort can be made between the Forest Service and permittee to reconstruct the development depending on funding. The permittee is required to provide the materials and labor during routine maintenance. The Bally Mountain Spring development which utilizes a storage tank must have a wildlife escape ramp installed.

MONITORING OF THE ANNUAL LIVESTOCK GRAZING ACTIVITY

We are requesting you to report actual use information for each unit grazed. If you have any questions about completing the form, please call the Range Department at the Forest Service at (208) 347-0300. We request the forms be returned no later than February 1, 2010.

MULTIPLE USE REQUIREMENTS

All plantation grazing must be coordinated with the Forest Service prior to grazing the plantations. You will need to make sure cattle don't hang out in these areas.

If there is damage to Forest System trails by the permittee's livestock the permittee will need to repair it or pay for it to be repaired.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT

In the event a designated mitigation measure fails to protect a species listed under the Endangered Species Act, a change in authorized grazing activity will occur. If proper use grazing levels are reached then livestock are to be moved to the next grazing unit or off of the allotment. If livestock grazing does not comply with the terms and conditions of these Annual Operating Instructions, then Forest Service policy and procedures regarding administrative permit actions will be followed.

Coordination with Potlatch, State Lands, and the BLM will be ongoing throughout the season to assure proper use on all lands. We appreciate your continued communication concerning grazing within the Granite Unit.

You are responsible for ensuring that your rider is informed and understands the standards, guidelines, and other management direction in these instructions.

/s/ Kimberly A. Brandel
Kimberly A. Brandel
District Ranger

7/14/2009
Date

/s/ Tim Hansen
Tim and Kelly Hansen
Preferred Applicant

7/6/2009
Date